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SENATE BILL 235 By
Womack

HOUSE BILL 698
By Eckles

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, relative to insurance coverage for certain medical training.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 25, is amended by adding the following new section:

Section 56-7-2507.

(a) Any individual, franchise blanket or group health insurance policy, medical service plan, contract, hospital service corporation contract, hospital and medical service corporation contract, fraternal benefit society, or health maintenance organization which provides coverage for accident and health services, and which is delivered, issued for delivery, amended or renewed on or after July 1, 1997, should also provide coverage for reimbursing licensed pharmacists for their expense in instructing and monitoring a patient regarding the proper use of covered equipment, supplies, and medications for treatment of diabetes prescribed by a licensed physician.

(b) Any increase in expenditure requirements on a municipality or a county resulting from the provisions of this subsection shall be appropriated from funds that such municipality or county receives from the state-shared taxes that are not earmarked by statute for a particular purpose.

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(c) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to short-term travel, long-term care, credit insurance, dental insurance, disability income, medical surgical supplemental insurance, vision insurance, hospital indemnity, accident-only limited or specified disease policies, or to short-term nonrenewable policies of not more than six (6) months' duration.

(d) For the purposes of this subsection:

(1) "Covered supplies" include blood glucose monitors, monitoring supplies, insulin, injection aids, syringes, insulin infusion devices, and pharmacological agents for controlling blood sugar.

(2) "Licensed Pharmacist" means any person licensed under the provisions of Title 63, Chapter 10.

SECTION 2 . This act shall take effect July 1, 1997, the public welfare requiring it.